

REMARKS

Pending Claims

Prior to entry of this Amendment, claims 1-9 were pending in the application. After entry of this Amendment, claims 4 and 7-25 are pending in the application, with claims 4, 7, 19, and 24 being independent. Applicant has amended claims 4 and 7-9 herein. Applicant also has added new claims 10-25 to provide an additional scope of protection commensurate with the original disclosure. Applicant has canceled claims 1-3 and 5-6 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. No new matter has been added.

Unless explicitly stated otherwise, none of the amendments to the claims were made for reasons substantially related to the statutory requirements for patentability. Furthermore, unless stated otherwise, the amendments to the claims were made simply to make express what had been implicit in the claims as originally worded and therefore are not narrowing amendments that would create any type of prosecution history estoppel. In addition, to the extent that formerly dependent claims are now presented in independent form, such amendments do not constitute a narrowing amendment that surrenders any subject matter.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

Allowable Independent Claim 4

In the Office Action dated March 19, 2007, the Examiner objected to claim 4 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and stated that claim 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim. In response, Applicant has amended claim 4 to be in independent form, as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection to that claim.

Dependent Claims 10-18 (Which Depend from Allowable Independent Claim 4)

New dependent claims 10-18 depend either directly or indirectly from allowable independent claim 4. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 10-18 also are allowable.

Other New Claims Include a Feature Similar to the Allowable Subject Matter of Claim 4

Independent Claim 7 and Dependent Claims 8-9

Applicant has amended independent claim 7 to include a feature that is similar to the feature found allowable in claim 4 by the Examiner. Specifically, claim 7 now includes the feature of radially expanding and plastically deforming the tubular liner into engagement with the wellbore casing to couple the tubular liner to the wellbore casing and machining an end of the first tubular liner while the first tubular liner is coupled to the wellbore casing within the wellbore. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claim 7 and claims 8-9 depending therefrom also are allowable.

***New Independent Claims 19 and 24
and New Dependent Claims 20-23 and 25***

Applicant has added new independent claims 19 and 24. Each of those claims includes a feature that is similar to the feature found allowable in claim 4 by the Examiner. Specifically, each of claims 19 and 24 includes the feature of radially expanding and plastically deforming the tubular liner into engagement with the wellbore casing that is positioned within and coupled to the wellbore and machining an end of the tubular liner into a beveled shape after radially expanding and plastically deforming the tubular liner. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claims 19 and 24 also are allowable. Additionally, new claims 20-23 and 25 depend either directly or indirectly

from independent claims 19 and 24, respectively, and Applicant also submits that these dependent claims are allowable.

Deposit Account Authorization

Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees necessary for consideration of this paper, and to credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-3786.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the foregoing as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated March 19, 2007. Applicant submits that this Amendment and Response places the application in condition for allowance and respectfully requests such action. Applicant did not present the amendments and new claims earlier because Applicant believed the previously considered claims to be patentable. If any issues exist that can be resolved with an Examiner's Amendment or a telephone conference, please contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at 404.572.2809.

Respectfully submitted,

/William O. Isaacs, II/

Reg. No. 44,165

King & Spalding LLP
1100 Louisiana Street, Suite 4000
Houston, Texas 77002-5213
Telephone: (713) 751-3200
Facsimile: (713) 751-3290